First, for all manner of *Ceremonies of humane ordinance*, imposed upon the conscience in the worship of God, I openly, for the space almost of a twelvemoneth, immediately before my troubles, preached against them, every Lords day, out of *Col.* 2. from the 8th verse to the end of the Chapter; so as when I was summoned into the High Commission Court, the Articles read against mee, were not only for my two Sermons, *Nov.* 5th, but also for those other Sermons against the *Ceremonies*: so as this might challenge to be one ingredient in my censure in *Star-Chamber*, and no lesse then a pillory matter.

And concerning my opposing of Bishops themselves, not only their extravagancies (for which I also was censured, and suffered) you may remember one passage in that Book, *For God & the King*, affixed to the *information*; *Were there a law in* England, *as once among the* Locrians, *that who should come to propound a new law, hee should come with a rope about his neck*; I *would be the first my self, to petition the Parliament, that the government of Bishops might be abolished, and another set up more agreeable to the Scripture*, (although I confesse, were I to make such a proposition now, I should as much alter my style, as the condition of this present time differs from that, I should mount much higher.) And do you not think, brother, that this helped to put the Hang-mans knife (though not the halter) so close to the very root of mine ears, that it opened the wider sluces for the blood to stream out (with yours my dear Fellow-sufferers) to fill the Whores cup, and make her drunk and spue, and fall, and rise up no more? Although the more cautelous and self-wise, or discreet any of us (but especially my self) then was, to avoid the fear of men, or force of law, certainly now, brother, it abates so much the more of the honour of that suffering; and the lesse honour, the more *shame*. But take we the shame to our selves, and give we all the honour to whom it is due; and brother, wherein we then came short, let us now make it up, by being zealous for our Christ, in labouring to advance the throne of his kingly government in all our souls, and over all the Churches of the Saints, and with those four and twenty Elders, cast our selves and crowns before him that sitteth on the throne, saying, Rev. 4. 10. *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, and honour, and power, for evermore. Amen.* And let this be our main contention, who shall most honor Christ, and most love one another, *Farewell.*

FINIS.

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FINIS.

K Kiffin E.17/6

To Mr. Thomas Edwards.

Sir

You stand as one professing your selfe to be instructed by Christ with Abilities from God, to throw downe Errour, and therefore to that end doe preach every third Day, may it therefore please you and those that imploy you in that worke, to give these leave whom you so brand, as bubliquely to object against what you say, when your Sermon is ended, as you declare your selfe: and we hope it will be an encrease of further Light to all that feare God and put a large Advantage into your hands if you have the Truth on your side, to cause it to shine with more clearnesse and I hope we shall doe it with Moderation as becommeth Christians.

Novemb. 15. 1644. Yours, William Kiffin.

Printed for [illegible]
Twyford, Anno Dom. 1644.